

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Dive Into Science at Hidden Pond Nature Center

There's no reason the kids can't become swamp creatures for a day! Bring them out to Hidden Pond Nature Center for *Wetland Wednesday* on May 16, 2007 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. You can help them plunge into Peeper Swamp and learn first hand how a wetland habitat works.

Considered one of Hidden Pond's best kept secrets, Peeper Swamp hosts a wetlands ecosystem typical of this region. The plunge is a unique learning experience for children ages 8 to 12. By wading into the waters, kids will stand side by side with knowledgeable naturalists and the many aquatic life forms that make up a wetland including several amphibians and reptiles.

A variety of environmental habitats abound in Fairfax County. Hidden Pond offers visitors hands-on opportunities to learn about local ecosystems. Programming such as the wetlands plunge follows Virginia Science Standards of Learning and give children an outlet for intellectual growth outside of the classroom.

Dress the kids for a mess and bring along a change of clothes. If it begins to rain, the program will be cancelled. Reservations are required along with a participant fee of \$4.

Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511 Greeley Blvd. in Springfield. For more information and to make reservations, please call 703-451-9588 or visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenpond.

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